IN THE CLAIMS:

Please amend claims 9 and 11-18 as shown below, in which deleted terms are shown with strikethrough and/or strikethrough, and added terms are shown with underscoring. Also, please add claims 19-27 as shown below.

CLAIMS

1-8. (cancelled)

9. (Currently amended) A manufacturing method for microcapsules comprising the steps of:

~~allowing a continuous phase material to flow through a microchannel;~~

~~allowing a polyelectrolyte solution as a disperse phase to flow through another microchannel, the microchannels being joined with each other to allow the continuous phase and the disperse phase to join in a state of a laminar flow;~~

~~thereafter reducing the flow rate of the continuous phase and the disperse phase in a dramatic way so as to prepare~~ preparing an emulsion which contains [[the]] a polyelectrolyte solution as a disperse phase having a uniform diameter according to the method of claim 19;

demulsifying the emulsion; and

contacting the polyelectrolyte solution as a disperse phase with a polyelectrolyte solution having a reverse electric charge to the polyelectrolyte solution as a disperse phase or a polyvalent ion solution at the same time [[of]] as the demulsifying step so as to form a gel layer made of a polyelectrolyte complex around fine particles of the polyelectrolyte solution as a disperse phase by a polyelectrolyte reaction.

10. (Previously presented) The manufacturing method for microcapsules according to claim 9, wherein the microchannels are formed on a glass base or a silicon base.

11. (Currently amended) The manufacturing method for microcapsules according to claim 9, wherein the flow rate is reduced in a dramatic way by [[using]] flowing the joined continuous and disperse phases into a pool having a large volume of capacity.

12. (Currently amended) A manufacturing method for microcapsules, which is performed in a single apparatus comprising a case, a first passage for a disperse phase, a second passage for a continuous phase, a plate positioned between the first passage and the second passage, penetrating holes formed in the plate, and a division wall provided in a substantially central area of the first passage to divide the first passage into first and second sections, comprising the steps of:

supplying a continuous phase to the second passage;

supplying a polyelectrolyte solution as a disperse phase to the first section of the first passage in a state of applying greater pressure to the polyelectrolyte solution than to the continuous phase so as to push the disperse phase into the continuous phase via the penetrating holes to prepare an emulsion;

supplying a polyelectrolyte solution having a reverse electric charge to that of the polyelectrolyte solution as a disperse phase or a polyvalent ion solution to the second section of the first passage in a state of applying greater pressure to the polyelectrolyte solution having a

reverse electric charge or the polyvalent ion solution than to the continuous phase; and

contacting the polyelectrolyte solution as a disperse phase with the polyelectrolyte solution having a reverse electric charge or the polyvalent ion solution while the emulsion is demulsified so as to form a gel layer made of a polyelectrolyte complex around fine particles of the polyelectrolyte solution as a disperse phase by a polyelectrolyte reaction.

13. (Currently amended) The manufacturing method for microcapsules according to ~~any one of claims 9-12~~ claim 9, wherein the emulsion is demulsified by adding the same material as the continuous phase or a ~~soluble~~ material [[to]] which is soluble in the continuous phase ~~thereto~~ to the emulsion so as to reduce the concentration of a surface-active agent in the emulsion.

14. (Currently amended) The manufacturing method for microcapsules according to ~~any one of claims 9-12~~ claim 9, wherein the emulsion does not contain a surface-active agent ~~is originally not added to the continuous phase such that an emulsion which easily is demulsified is prepared~~, and [[this]] the emulsion is demulsified by being contacted with the polyelectrolyte solution having a reverse electric charge or the polyvalent ion solution ~~immediately~~.

15. (Currently amended) The manufacturing method for microcapsules according to ~~any one of claims 9-14~~ claim 9, wherein the disperse phase is selected from a group consisting of an alginic acid, carboxymethyl cellulose, pectin, carrageenan, sulfate cellulose, and chondroitin sulfuric acid; the polyelectrolyte to be reacted with the disperse phase is selected from a group

consisting of a polyamino acid, polymer containing a primary amine group, a secondary amine group, a tertiary amine group, or pyridinyl nitrogen, and aminated polysaccharide; and the polyvalent ion ~~to be reacted with the disperse phase~~ in the polyvalent ion solution is selected from a group consisting of Ca^{2+}, Ba^{2+}, Pb^{2+}, Cu^{2+}, Cd^{2+}, Sr^{2+}, Co^{2+}, Ni^{2+}, Zn^{2+} and Mn^{2+}.

16. (Currently amended) The manufacturing method for microcapsules according to ~~any one of claims 9-15~~ claim 9, wherein a cell which generates a desired material is added to the polyelectrolyte solution as a disperse phase in advance of the emulsion preparation step.

17. (Currently amended) The manufacturing method for microcapsules according to ~~any one of claims 9-16~~ claim 9, wherein the diameter of the disperse phase is within the range of 50 - 300 μm.

18. (Currently amended) A method for treating a human body, wherein the microcapsule manufactured by the method according to ~~any one of claims 9-17~~ claim 9 is injected into parts of a human body by an injector, a catheter or an operation.

19. (New) A method for preparing an emulsion comprising the steps of:

allowing a continuous phase material to flow through a microchannel;

allowing a polyelectrolyte solution as a disperse phase to flow through another microchannel, the microchannels being joined with each other to allow the continuous phase and the disperse phase to join in a state of a laminar flow; and

thereafter reducing the flow rate of the continuous phase and the disperse phase in a dramatic way so as to prepare an emulsion which contains the polyelectrolyte solution as a disperse phase having a uniform diameter.

20. (New) A manufacturing method for microcapsules comprising the steps of:

preparing an emulsion which contains a polyelectrolyte solution as a disperse phase having a uniform diameter and a continuous phase;

demulsifying the emulsion; and

contacting the polyelectrolyte solution as a disperse phase with a polyelectrolyte solution having a reverse electric charge to the polyelectrolyte solution as a disperse phase or a polyvalent ion solution at the same time as the demulsifying step so as to form a gel layer made of a polyelectrolyte complex around fine particles of the polyelectrolyte solution as a disperse phase by a polyelectrolyte reaction.

21. (New) The manufacturing method for microcapsules according to claim 20, wherein the emulsion is prepared by separately feeding the disperse phase and the continuous phase with a plate having penetrating holes, and applying greater pressure to the disperse phase than to the continuous phase so as to push the disperse phase into the continuous phase as microspheres.

22. (New) The manufacturing method for microcapsules according to claim 20, wherein the emulsion is demulsified by adding the same material as the continuous phase or a material which is soluble in the continuous phase to the emulsion so as to reduce the concentration of a surface-

active agent in the emulsion.

23. (New) The manufacturing method for microcapsules according to claim 20, wherein the emulsion does not contain a surface-active agent, and the emulsion is demulsified by being contacted with the polyelectrolyte solution having a reverse electric charge to the polyelectrolyte solution as a disperse phase or the polyvalent ion solution.

24. (New) The manufacturing method for microcapsules according to claim 20, wherein the disperse phase is selected from a group consisting of an alginic acid, carboxymethyl cellulose, pectin, carrageenan, sulfate cellulose, and chondroitin sulfuric acid; the polyelectrolyte to be reacted with the disperse phase is selected from a group consisting of a polyamino acid, polymer containing a primary amine group, a secondary amine group, a tertiary amine group, or pyridinyl nitrogen, and aminated polysaccharide; and the polyvalent ion of the polyvalent ion solution is selected from a group consisting of Ca^{2+}, Ba^{2+}, Pb^{2+}, Cu^{2+}, Cd^{2+}, Sr^{2+}, Co^{2+}, Ni^{2+}, Zn^{2+} and Mn^{2+}.

25. (New) The manufacturing method for microcapsules according to claim 20, wherein a cell which generates a desired material is added to the polyelectrolyte solution as a disperse phase in advance of said emulsion preparation step.

26. (New) The manufacturing method for microcapsules according to claim 20, wherein the diameter of the disperse phase is within the range of 50 - 300 μm.

27. (New) A method for treating a human body, wherein the microcapsule manufactured by the method according to claim 20 is injected into parts of a human body by an injector, a catheter or an operation.